GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:935
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
CRIMES AND ACCIDENTS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
Meghwal Shri Kailash;Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crimes and accidents on National Highways and Expressways have increased in the past few months in the country, especially in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; (

(c) whether in the absence of basic facilities at National Highways and Expressways, the crime rate has increased;

(d) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(e) the steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure safe journey on the National Highways and Expressways?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) and (b) Incidents of crime on National Highways and Expressways are not reported to the Central Government by the State Governments/Union Territories. However, accident data compiled by the States/Union Territories are forwarded annually to the Government of India, which shows an increasing trend including Karnataka.

(c) to(e) There could be a number of reasons for crimes on National Highways and Expressways and these may not be directly correlated with the basic facilities there. However, the Government has taken a number of steps to ensure safe journey on National Highways and Expressways, some of which are as under:

i Providing of ambulances, cranes etc. to State Governments and Non-Government Organisations under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme and highway patrolling;

ii. Widening of existing pavement;
iii. Strengthening of existing pavement;
iv. Improvement of road geometrics;
v. Augmentation of retro-reflective signages, thermo-plastic road markings;
vi. Funding of training to drivers of heavy motor vehicles; and
vii. Tightening of fitness norms for transport vehicles.